

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the present application.

The specification and drawings have been amended as set forth above and in the concurrently filed Letter to the Official Draftsman, respectively. No new subject matter has been added pursuant to these amendments.

Claims 1, 3, 6, and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tai. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In formulating the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), the Examiner alleges that Tai teaches a first parser circuit (element 50 of Figure 1) and a second parser circuit element 70 of Figure 1). From these allegations, the Examiner has concluded that Tai anticipates the presently claimed invention. These positions by the Examiner are respectfully traversed.

Tai teaches a color transformation circuit 50 which transforms the image data from one color space (RGB) to a second color space (Lab). One skilled in the art would clearly recognize that color transformation is not parsing. Moreover, the claims call for a separation of neutral image data from non-neutral image data by the first parser. Tai fails to teach anywhere in the reference that this simple color transformation circuit provides any type of parsing function as claimed.

Secondly, the presently claimed invention sets forth that the neutral data is further parsed into black, grey, and white. In contrast, Tai teaches a "Black Text Detection and Color Fringe Suppression" circuit which processes all image data. Tai fails to teach anywhere in the reference that this circuit parses the neutral data into three separate groups as claimed. Tai merely teaches the image correction of certain data based on a detection algorithm. This is not parsing.

In conclusion, the Examiner has relied on two circuits taught by Tai to support parsing functions, whereas one circuit is a simple color transformation circuit and the other is an image manipulation circuit. Therefore, since Tai is void of any teachings with respect to parsing, the Examiner's conclusion of anticipation fails.

Lastly, claims 2, 4, and 5; for the purposes of this Response; stand or fall with independent claim 1.

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections. Also, an early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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